

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor : Kari KIRJAVAINEN, et al.
Serial No. : 09/759,938
Filed : January 11, 2001
Title : **DIELECTRIC CELLULAR ELECTRET FILM
AND PROCEDURE FOR ITS MANUFACTURE**
Examiner : Hai Vo
Art Unit No. : 1771

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.132

SIR:

The undersigned, Kari Kirjavainen, one of the named inventors in the above-captioned application, one of the named inventors in U.S. Patent No. 4,654,546, and one of the named inventors in U.S. Patent No. 5,955,014, hereby declares as follows:

1. The film in U.S. Patent No. 4,654,546 comprises an homogenous film layer foamed to be of a full-cell type and which has been oriented by stretching it in two directions and coated, at least in part, on one side or on both sides with an electrically conductive layer.

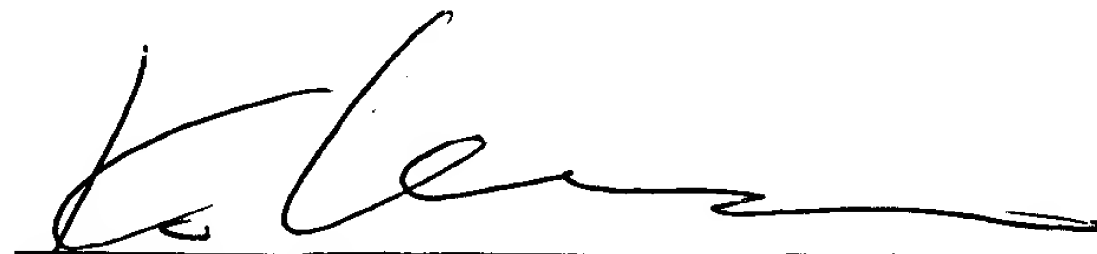
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2. A constant DC voltage may be applied to this film as indicated in column 3, lines 14-16, of U.S. Patent No. 4,654,546.
3. An embodiment of the film in the above-captioned application differs from that disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 4,654,546, in that the embodiment of the film in the above-captioned application is pressure inflated from a prefoamed plastic film, such as that disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 4,654,546, so that the film becomes a strongly foamed film product involving a high degree of foaming and allowing the thickness of the product to be increased without increasing the amount of plastic material, (see specification, page 5, lines 12-17).
4. Such a film, which is, however, uncharged, and the procedure for its manufacture is in fact disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 5,955,014, a copy of which is enclosed herewith for the reference of the Examiner.
5. It would not have been obvious to charge the film disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 4,654,546 with the high intensity electric field in the range of 100-200 MV/m disclosed in the above-captioned application, (see specification, page 2, lines 4-7), since there was a danger that the film disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 4,654,546 would have been destroyed with such intensive fields.
6. Upon, however, the production of films, such as disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 5,955,014, it became possible to manufacture films with improved mechanical strength when compared to those films disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 4,654,546, which allowed the possibility of charging such films with the intensive electric fields disclosed in the above-captioned application.

I further declare that all statements made herein are of my own knowledge are true and all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further, these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the above reference application or any patent issuing thereon.

DATE: Febr. 11, 2003


Kari Kirjavainen

Enclosure: Copy of U.S. Patent No. 5,955,014